

Serial No. 09/753017

- 8 -

Art Unit: 2152

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-23 are pending in this application. Claims 6-10, 12 and 18-21 are allowed. Claims 1-5 and 13-17 are rejected. Claims 22 and 23 are objected to. Claims 1, 2 and 13-16 are currently amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, and 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chen et al. Claim 13, as currently amended, distinguishes Chen because an application is loaded on one network device which creates command line interface commands that are transmitted to another network device. Chen does not teach that non-command line inputs are translated to command line inputs by one network device for another network device. Indeed, Chen teaches that command line interfaces are superior for use by experienced operators. In contrast, the present invention teaches that higher level applications such as object oriented applications can be used with legacy devices that accept only legacy command line input. Claim 13 has been amended to emphasize that the receiving, creating and transmitting steps are executed by the second network device to facilitate managing the first network device. Consequently, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 13 is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to emphasize features which distinguish Chen. In particular, claim 1 recites that an object-oriented application is loaded onto the second network device and used to generate a command line interface command that is communicated to the first network device via a loopback address. Neither the claimed use of the object-oriented application nor the use of the loopback address are taught by Chen. Consequently, withdrawal of the rejection of Chen is respectfully requested. Claims 2-5 and 14-17 are dependent claims which further distinguish the invention and are allowable for the same reasons stated above with regard to their

Serial No. 09/753017

- 9 -

Art Unit: 2152

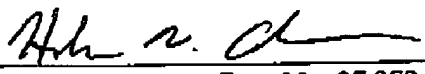
respective base claims. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2-5 and 14-17 is therefore also requested.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned, Applicants' Attorney at 978-264-6664 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date

  
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